

Peaches



Commercial peach production, valued at 848 thousand dollars in 2000, increased its contribution to the agricultural economy. It would have contributed even more if the price had not dropped from \$0.88 in 1999 to \$0.77 in 2000. Peach producers had an excellent yield due to the ideal weather conditions. Yield per acre averaged 3,750 pounds, up 1,460 pounds from the 1999 peach crop. Though the yield was extremely good, the number of acres of age bearing trees continued to decline. In fact, acreage is down to 320 acres, a 9 percent drop from 1999, and less than half of the acreage in 1996.

Peaches: Production, Price, and Value of Production: Louisiana, 1997-2000

Year	Bearing Age	Yield per Acre	Total Production	Utilized Production	Season Average Price	Value of Utilized Production
	Acres	Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Cents per Pound	1,000 Dollars
1997	450	2,440	1.1	1.0	45.3	453
1998	430	3,260	1.4	1.4	71.0	994
1999	350	2,290	0.8	0.7	88.0	616
2000	320	3,750	1.2	1.1	77.1	848

Pecans

Louisiana's total pecan production was valued at 13.1 million dollars in 2000. Of this total, native and seedling varieties represented 67 percent, while improved varieties represented 33 percent. Dry weather conditions from the previous year and the cyclical nature of this crop resulted in the lower production in 2000. Production of all pecans at 18 million pounds was down 22 percent from 1999. Of the total, native and seedling varieties represented 81 percent, while improved varieties represented 19 percent. Though production was down 4.0 million pounds in 2000, the price per pound for all pecans at \$0.73 was up \$0.09 from 1999.

